



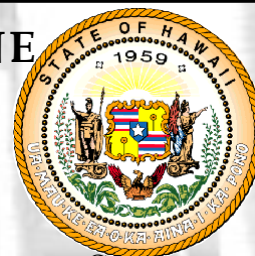
# REPRESENTATIVE RYAN YAMANE

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CHAIR, Tourism and Culture Committee

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## Mililani Community Report • August 2008

*Aloha,*

The last two months over the 2008 legislative interim were quite exciting with the Governor's submission of her potential veto list of 52 bills and the legislature convening for a one day special session to override 14 of these vetoes.

On that list was my fire-safe cigarettes bill, HB 2438, which the Governor intended to veto under the reasoning that it "task[ed] the State Fire Council with an unfunded mandate to implement [the] program." (*Governor's Press Release, June 23, 2008*)

My office worked persistently with the State Fire Council to show the Governor that this was not the case, and the Fire Council could implement this

program to help save lives.

The Honolulu Advertiser and the Honolulu Star Bulletin published two opinion pieces I submitted on July 3rd, to educate the public on the need of this program to convert all cigarettes in Hawaii to be fire-safe by 2009. On July 7th, the Governor signed HB 2438 as Act 218.

### **A self-extinguishing cigarette**

Twenty-one states – including 15 this year – have passed laws requiring all cigarettes sold to be "fire-safe." These cigarettes use two or three added bands of paper.



Graphic by Danny Dougherty, Stateline.org

Sources: Coalition for Fire-Safe Cigarettes

July 8th was the deadline requiring the Governor to take action on bills not yet signed into law, of the 52 potential vetoes submitted on her previous list, the Governor vetoed 41 bills. That same day, the legislature met for a full day in Special Session to override 13 of her 41 vetoes. The Governor also practiced her power to line-item veto bills with funding requests while signing the underlying bills into law. In total for the year 2008, the Governor line-item vetoed four bills and the legislature overrode one.

I hope you continue to have a fun and safe summer. I am dedicated to working hard to serve you. Please feel free to contact me anytime by phone, fax, or email and mahalo for your continued support.

*Wishing you a fun and safe summer,*

*Ryan Yamane*

## Overridden Vetoes of the 2008 Special Session

**House Bill 2250:** Allows for the regulation of interisland air carriers in the State of Hawaii upon approval and passage of federal regulation legislation.

**HB 2761:** Extends post-partum care and care between pregnancies from 8 weeks to at least 6 months for women in the QUEST program.

**HB 2843:** Restructures inspection fees imposed on cargo coming into the state by creating a fee on a per-pound basis. Expands to include fees on all cargo entering the state.

**Senate Bill 156:** Allows residents to permanently register for absentee ballots.

**SB 2262:** Extends the Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association Trust pilot program to July 1, 2010. Requires the State auditor to conduct an analysis of the cost and fiscal impact of the program.

**SB 2263:** Requires the UH Board of Regents to publicly disclose the salaries of all new employees, all UH administrators, and all budgetary expenditures made by the BoR.

**SB 2345:** Establishes the "children's bill of rights" which creates principles to be used by state agencies when dealing with children of incarcerated parents.

**SB 2542:** Appropriates \$1 million to the Hawaii Health Care System to ensure it remains fiscally viable and stable to provide assistance to the needs of uninsured, underinsured, and Medicaid residents.

**SB 2668:** Establishes requirements for the UH Board of Regents Candidate Advisory Council.

**SB 2803:** Creates an Information Privacy and Security Council in the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGs) to protect information collected and maintained by the State and County governments.

**SB 2840:** Requires DBEDT to establish and update biennially a self-sufficiency standard.

**SB 2843:** Requires manufacturers of electronic devices to collect and recycle the devices. Establishes an electrical recycling fund.

**SB 2878:** Establishes an early learning system in the state. Creates the Early Learning Council to develop and administer the early learning system to be named "Keiki First Steps".

**SB 2830: Line-Item Veto Override of \$500,000 funding to the Kupuna Care Program.**

## Nettle Caterpillar Found in Kipapa Gulch and Lower Mililani

In early July, the Honolulu Advertiser reported the spread of an invasive species in Kipapa Gulch and nearby Mililani residences. The nettle caterpillar, an inch long caterpillar with stinging venomous hairs, was identified by Department of Agriculture officials to be present in our community. The caterpillar, if touched, can cause welts, blisters, and rashes on the affected area of the skin.

I have been working closely with the Dept. of Agriculture to contain these harmful insects. Mid-July, the department circulated information to residences nearby the Kipapa Gulch to inform residents to be vigilant for nettles. The department so far has setup bait stations to chemically treat the spread of these caterpillars in the Kipapa Gulch. Following the identification of an infested area, the department will introduce a biological control agent—a natural enemy of the caterpillar—to attack it without harming other native or beneficial insects to the Kipapa gulch environment.

If you see a nettle caterpillar, **do not touch it**. Contact the State's Pest Hotline at: **643-7378**. **Spread the Word:** Please inform your children, neighbors and the elderly about the nettles.



## Army Community Covenant Signing at Schofield

On July 4th, Schofield Army Base hosted its 37th Annual Fourth of July Spectacular at Sills Field. The Hawaii Army Community hosted a unique Covenant signing for the Governor, community elected officials, and community and military leaders.

The community covenant, represents the symbolic commitment between Army and state and city leaders to show the support of our troops living here, locally as well as the support the Army provides to the State of Hawaii and nearby cities including Mililani, Waipio Gentry, Waipahu and Kunia.

I was honored to attend and represent and sign the covenant on behalf of the district of Mililani and Waipio Gentry.

## Community Unites Against Domestic Violence

Members of the Mililani community and others throughout the State united to mourn the recent loss of two of our neighbors of the James family. On July 8th, 150 people gathered to march at the State Capitol to express their grief, and anger against domestic violence.

Two weeks ago on July 13th, community members organized a sign waving campaign against domestic violence at the Mililani Town Center along Meheula Parkway. Those who participated remembered the lives of Grineline James and her son, Michael James II and increased the awareness to keep family, neighbors, and community members safe by reporting domestic violence issues.



## Lightning Rescue 2008: Hawaii Prepares for Pandemic Influenza Outbreak

On July 22nd and 24th, I had the opportunity to join Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine, Coast Guard, State Health and Civil Defense officials in a combined agency training exercise to prepare for a potential pandemic influenza outbreak in Honolulu and Kauai.

Held at Honolulu Airport and Barking Sands, Kauai, the training responded to an international aircraft carrying a virus of pandemic magnitude arriving in Hawaii. The training enabled the military, state, and county to prepare, communicate and train as if it were a realistic situation.

